

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : OC Equipment Board Members

DATE: 16 February 1977

25X1 FROM : [REDACTED]
OC Equipment Board Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes of OC Equipment Board
Meeting No. 2-77

1. Meeting No. 2-77 of OC Equipment Board was held on 8 February 1977 in the D/CO Conference Room. The following persons were in attendance:

25X1	Mr.	[REDACTED]	DD/CO	Chairman
	Mr.		OC-O	Member
	Mr.		OC-E	Member
	Mr.		OC-S	Alternate
	Mr.		OC-CS	Member
	Mr.		OC-P&B	Member
	Mr.		OC-PS	Observer
	Mr.		OC-E	Guest
	Mr.		OC-E	Guest
	Mr.		OC-E	Secretary

25X1 2. The Chairman opened the meeting and introduced Mr. [REDACTED] who began the RT/B-519 HF Brevity Code System Briefing. He gave the background and operational requirements for the system. Mr. [REDACTED] then continued the briefing describing the hardware development including the RS-540 HF Base Station. He then demonstrated the system operation by making several test transmissions. A short question and answer period concluded the briefing. The attachment contains details on the RT/B-519-RS-540 system.

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25X1 3. Mr. [REDACTED] then asked Mr. [REDACTED] to open the discussion on the OC-O/SOD Memo concerning alternatives to the OC Manual Morse Network. Mr. [REDACTED] stated the purpose of the memo was to start investigation and

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eventual equipment development for a system which could solve several current problems. He proposed setting up a joint Operations/Engineering group to study the problem and make recommendations. Mr. [] suggested that the RT/B-519-RS-540 system concept could be developed to fill this requirement. The development may require \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000, but there would be a savings of up to 16 positions throughout the network. This system would be used both ways between field and base with canned messages and allow the automation of the NCS position.

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25X1 4. Mr. [] stated that he had examined the Ops memo and could see no personnel savings in automating the NCS positions. These were normally handled by the Facilities Control Operators on a part-time basis.

25X1 Several other members disagree with this statement and quoted statistics on headphone watch times in the various base stations. Mr. [] agreed there is a need for a new automated system to replace the existing manual morse; however, it should have an alphanumeric capability and consideration should be given to developing a system which is compatable with other Government agencies.

25X1 Mr. [] also agreed with the need for alphanumeric characters and pointed out that a narrative message capability would be needed especially for sending [] traffic.

25X1 5. Mr. [] observed that there was a general consensus among the members that a study for a new system was needed and directed that Operations and Engineering set up a group to do this.

25X1 6. The third item on the meeting agenda, a draft Book Dispatch concerning VHF Utility Nets, was also introduced by Mr. []. He said that there is a need for a management system for all the VHF equipment used overseas which would also address the cover problems and replacement programs. Since DDO is directly concerned with the requirement for this equipment, its concurrence is needed and therefore, Executive Board action is possibly required.

25X1 Mr. [] stated that since this is mainly an equipment problem Executive Board action is not required at this time. Mr. [] observed that the main reasons for having

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VHF nets at overseas posts were the counter-terrorism program and to assist personal communications in countries with poor telephone service.

The exceptions to this are the Chief of Station's surveillance and

7. General discussion followed covering the COS's need for a separate net and additional sets; cover problems; the OS and SY search for a cheap monitor receiver; the need for secure voice systems; and OC should work out statements of policy with [redacted]

[redacted] Suggestions were made that we clean up the present situation and work on the larger policy problems together with the development of a protected voice system with Department of State, CIA, and Department of Defense for joint operations.

8. Mr. [redacted] asked that Operations rewrite the dispatch in coordination with DDO and Office of Security addressing the points covered in the discussion.

9. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attachment:
RT/B-519 & RS-540 System Details

Distribution:

- 1 - DD/CO
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- 1 - Board Secretary

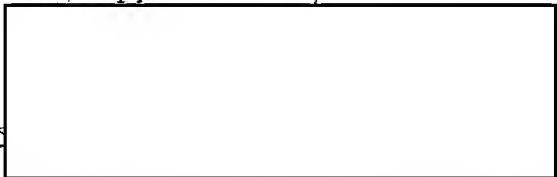
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Minutes Approved



2.17.77
Date

Deputy Director of Communications

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Concur in Paragraphs 5 and 8 Recommendations



2.17.77
Date

Director of Communications

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